

REMARKS

In response to the Notice of Allowance mailed April 18, 2008, (hereafter "Notice of Allowance"), claims 8-21 have been cancelled, without prejudice or disclaimer. The title and the abstract have also been amended to be more commensurate with the scope of the claims. Accordingly, claims 1-7 and 23-25 remain pending.

Applicants are not conceding that the subject matter encompassed by claims 8-21 prior to this Amendment is not allowable. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue claims, including the subject matter encompassed by claims 8-21, as presented prior to this Amendment and additional claims in one or more continuing applications.

Since these amendments require no substantial amount of additional work on the part of the Patent Office, all the foregoing amendments should be entered. Accordingly, the submission of this Rule 312 Amendment should not hinder issuance of this application as a United States Patent.

CONCLUSION

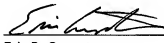
For at least the reasons set forth above, and because this Amendment is being submitted prior to payment of the enclosed issue fee, Applicants respectfully solicit entry of this Amendment into the record.

Please charge any fees, if any, associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 033975. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Date: July 3, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

By:



Eric B. Compton
Registration No. 54,806

Customer No. 00909

PILLSBURY WINTHROP SHAW PITTMAN LLP
P.O. Box 10500
McLean, Virginia 22102
Direct Dial: 703-770-7721
Main: 703-770-7900
Fax: 703-770-7901